

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 NIC-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CY GR TU RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN POSITION ON CYPRUS

1. AN AUTHORITATIVE LEAD ARTICLE CARRIED IN SCINTEIA FEBRUARY 18 REPORTS ROMANIAN "PUBLIC OPINION" WITH REGARD TO THE CYPRUS SITUATION. IT REITERATES PAST ROMANIAN CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS FROM THE ISLAND AND A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, BASED ON STRICT REQUEST FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE AND INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS. NEW ELEMENT IS ROMANIAN "REGRET" THAT SITUATION HAS BEEN FURTHER COMPLICATED BY DECISION OF TURKISH COMMUNITY TO PROCLAIM NORTHERN PART OF THE ISLAND AN AUTONOMOUS FEDERATED STATE. A DECISION WHICH, ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, "RAISES NEW AND SERIOUS OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS AND THE DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEMS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE." ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT IT IS NOT THROUGH SUCH "UNILATERAL ACTS" THAT A SOLUTION TO THE EXISTING PROBLEMS WILL BE FOUND, AND URGES PROGRESSIVE AND DEMOCRATIC FORCES EVERYWHERE TO AID THE COURSE OF PEACEFUL
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NEGOTIATIONS.

2. COMMENT: NEW ROMANIAN COMMENT COMES ON THE HEELS OF BULGARIAN LEADER ZHIVKOV'S VISIT WHICH INCLUDED DISCUSSIONS OF CYPRUS SITUATION, AND IN WAKE OF ANNOUNCEMENT THAT FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU WILL VISIT GREECE AT END OF MONTH. IT IS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE CONTINUED ROMANIAN PREOCCUPATION WITH THE UNSTABLE SITUATION SO CLOSE TO ITS OWN BORDERS.
BARNES

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